

MT LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Chapter 4 19 82

Bill (H) 10 S \_\_\_\_\_

Original bill & hist. C

H. Committee on State Administration

S. Committee on State Administration

Hearing Date(s) JUNE 22 ✓ C

Hearing Date(s) JUNE 21 ✓ C

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JUNE 22 ✓ C

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Date Out JUNE 22 ✓ C

JUNE 23 ✓ C

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Did this bill originate in an interim committee? Yes No

Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Report \_\_\_\_\_

June 21, 1982

of the people of Deer Lodge was discussed, realizing that the cross-section is not whole heartedly in favor of it but want more security in general. The revenue that would be lost from tourists was discussed by the committee (\$60,000 a year). Rep. Dussault pointed out that 285 close security beds plus 35 maximum security beds would be needed and if administration figures were right, these needs would not be met. Rep. Brand stated that prisoners could be double bunked.

The hearing was closed on House Bill No. 9.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6:

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TEMPORARY SELECT COMMITTEE TO PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE LEGISLATURE CONCERNING SHORT- AND LONG-TERM CORRECTIONAL POLICIES FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA; APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMMITTEE; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE.

Rep. Harper, sponsor, stated to the committee that planning is essential, citing that this problem has been studied on all different levels of government. A problem is realized, but the Legislature must be careful not to do something without a plan. He feels there is not proper time to make a proper decision and proposes a planning committee, an action committee, to decide what we should do. This bill would provide that with the approximate cost being \$35,000. He stressed the safety of society being the first priority.

There were no other proponents or opponents, so questions were opened up to the committee. Questions involved the scope of the bill, the duties of the committee and inclusion of juvenile problems. Rep. Harper said they would be encouraged to look only at the prison where the biggest problem is, but Sen. Towe was assured that the women's prison would not be excluded in the study. The committee would oversee the use of the money appropriations. Rep. Phillips asked about the possibility of making a decision during the regular session, and Rep. Harper agreed that there is not enough time during the special session.

The hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 10:

AN ACT TO SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY BASED PRERELEASE CENTERS; AMENDING SECTION 53-1-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sen. Goodover stated this bill would allow the Department of Institutions to provide community based prerelease centers. He

June 21, 1982

read the bill citing the law and the necessary amendments that are drawn up.

PROPONENTS: John Soderburg - see enclosed testimony.

Kevin McNelis discussed the Anaconda prerelease center and the Beta House, pointing out that residents would be parole eligible. He felt that it is better to educate and to teach survival skills.

Cathy Campbell urged support. See enclosed testimony from the Montana Association of Churches.

Ken Peterson cited his experiences with a Montana state prisoner indicating that an ex-prisoner has no home, no money, no car, and no friends. He favors prerelease centers because it will gradually bring back the individual into society and told the committee it is our obligation to help these people.

Pat Klingman read the petition which is inserted and urged the use of more high quality programs for low-risk prisoners with adequate funding.

Joseph Cassidy, an ex-convict serving two years, nine months until 1980 for negligent homicide, used the term "half-way house" as synonymous with "prerelease centers". He noted that over crowding at the prison is only one problem; psychological evaluation is needed, citing problems he noted while there. He stressed the value of community corrections.

Dave Armstrong from the Alpha House supported the bill by saying two new half-way houses would take care of fifty individuals. Counselling and money earned by the inmate would help him fit back into society.

John Frankino, Montana Catholic Conference, read the enclosed testimony.

Jerome Cate, attorney, cited his experiences and stated there is no in-house training in the prison and stressed the need for this. There must be treatment facilities in the drug and alcohol areas, because opportunities must be offered to bring them back into society and survive; otherwise, the prisoner will be back in prison in a short time.

Jim Reynolds, Civil Liberties Union attorney, supports the bill because it supports the Montana Constitution.

Gayle Behan spoke as a citizen of the state wanting to give the convict a chance to become a good citizen.

Leonard Driessen supported the bill.

June 21, 1982

There were no opponents.

The hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2:

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS TO LOCATE A PRERELEASE CENTER IN GREAT FALLS, MONTANA.

Rep. Bergene introduced this resolution to establish a prerelease center in Great Falls.

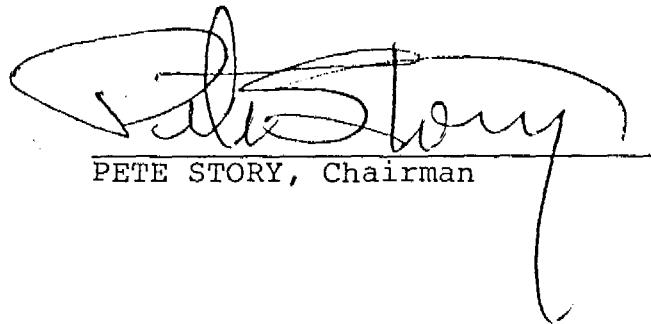
PROPOSERS: Sen. Pat Goodover supported the bill and introduced Dorothy Bohn, co-chairman of the Prerelease Committee in Great Falls who read her enclosed testimony.

There were no opponents.

Questions from the committee involved appropriation, wording of the bill, labor union acceptance and community acceptance.

The hearing was closed.

ADJOURNMENT: 4:50 p.m.



PETE STORY, Chairman

ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date June 21-

| NAME                                           | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|------------------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Senator Pete Story, Chairman                   | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Allen Kolstad, V. C.                   | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator William Hafferman                      | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator H. W. Hammond                          | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Jan <sup>Wolf</sup> <del>Johnson</del> |         | ✓      |         |
| Senator Patrick Ryan                           | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Thomas Towe                            | ✓       |        |         |
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|                                                |         |        |         |

## VISITORS' REGISTER

COMMITTEE:

6-21-82

117 LL

**SPONSOR**

[illegible]

NAME: KEN PETERSEN DATE: 6-21-82

ADDRESS: 901 COLE HELENA MT

PHONE: 442-5230

REPRESENTING WHOM? \_\_\_\_\_

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: PRE RELEASE CENTERS

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

NAME: JIM REYNOLDS DATE: 6/21/82

ADDRESS: 425 BROADWAY, HELLENIA

PHONE: 443-1206

REPRESENTING WHOM? MT. CHAPTER - AMER. CIVIL LIBERTIES

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL: PRISON REFORM - PRE-RELEASE

DO YOU: SUPPORT? X AMEND? \_\_\_\_\_ OPPOSE? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: ACLU SUPPORTS INCREASED USE OF  
PROBATION/PAROLE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
COMMUNITY PRE-RELEASE PROGRAMS

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.



Cathy Campbell  
H.B. 10

**MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES**  
**Position Paper on**  
**CORRECTIONS**

**POSITION STATEMENT**

The Montana Association of Churches supports:

1. A sentencing system which permits judges and others within the justice system latitude and discretion in dealing with individual offenders;
2. Individualized correctional programs which consider confinement as the least desired alternative, consistent with public safety and the offenders' needs; and
3. More community correction alternatives and resources rather than an increase in the capacity and/or the population of Montana State Prison.

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**

The Montana Association of Churches speaks from a Judeo-Christian ethic that echoes a constant theme regarding concern for the captive person. Jesus associates himself with those in prison: "I was in prison, and you came to visit me." As leaders of Christian churches and, as participant in and observers of the justice system in Montana, we speak to the needs of that system.

The judge traditionally is accepted as one, in a non-biased position, who knows the individual circumstances surrounding each case. There are guidelines (ABA standards, National Council on Crime and Delinquency's *Model Sentencing Act*) which help him/her in the individual decisions.

We favor individualized correctional programs which do not view confinement as the first and best alternative. We agree with the Montana Justice Project *Corrections Report* (1976) that no offender should be subjected to more custody and security than he/she needs. We agree that "the majority of offenders do not pose a substantial

We fear a mood which leads to "warehouse prisoners" at Montana State Prison<sup>1</sup> rather than seeking to resolve the problems at the local level. Community correction alternatives allow a "bridging plan" between prisoner, the institution and the community to occur. They also can afford a better opportunity to focus on the individual personal and social needs, thus raising the chance of successful rehabilitation. (cf. Montana Department of Institutions *Corrections Alternative Plans and Inmate Profile Study* (1979). A community based correctional system, in fact, is less expensive and at least as effective as a centralized system.

There is a wide range of concerns in Montana about our criminal justice system. We have isolated a few which we consider can and must be addressed. We believe our position will be an aid to all who want a correctional system that work effectively and humanely.

<sup>1</sup> Montana State Prison was designed for 480. The October 1, 1980, population was 638.

<sup>2</sup> Comparable costs:  
Billings Life Skills Training Center \$31.65 per day per person (Fiscal Year 1980)  
Missoula Life Skills Training Center \$24.9 (Fiscal Year 1980)  
Montana State Prison \$32.51 (Fiscal Year 1979)

Montana Religious Legislative Coalition  
(M.R.L.C.)  
P.O. Box 1708  
Helena, Montana 59624

**MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES  
POSITION - 1981**

**CORRECTIONS**

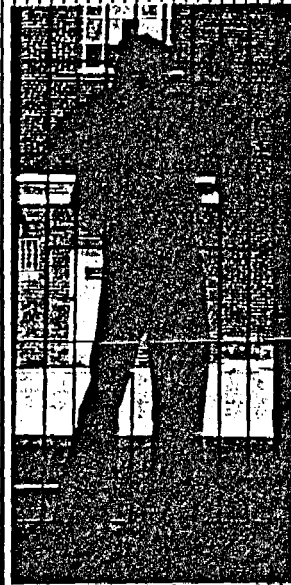
Other M.A.C. Position Papers:

Environment and Land Use  
Government - Institutions (Us and Them)  
Tax Exemption  
Victims of Crime Compensation  
Released Time for Religious Education  
Welfare and Financial Support  
Legislating Morality  
M.R.L.C. Introduction and History  
Energy and Environment  
Gambling  
Home Health Care  
Funding of Conciliation Courts  
Pre-marital Counseling for Minors  
Pornography  
Capital Punishment  
Traffic Safety

**Member Units of the Montana Association  
of Churches**

American Baptist Church  
American Lutheran Church  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Episcopal Church, Diocese of Montana  
Lutheran Church in America  
Roman Catholic Church -  
Diocese of Great Falls  
Diocese of Helena  
United Church of Christ  
United Methodist Church  
United Presbyterian Church -  
The Presbytery of Glacier  
The Presbytery of Yellowstone

*Cathy Campbell*  
*Pre Release H B 10*



**CORRECTIONS**

NAME :

DATE: 6/21/52

ADDRESS :

PHONE :

REPRESENTING WHOM?

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

ves

AMEND ?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS :

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

HE 7

I am John Soderberg, a United Methodist Minister in Bozeman, Montana. I am a native Montanan, growing up in Glendive, attending college in Billings, and serving churches in Roundup, Grass Range, and Winnett, in Fort Benton before coming to <sup>Bozeman</sup> Billings.

While living out-of-state, I worked in a chaplaincy program at Riker's Island prison in New York City. I was one of the founding directors of the Montana Criminal Justice Coalition.

I have come today with three concerns. First, that dangerous criminals should be kept under lock and key and separated from the general population. Second, that all other offenders should be rehabilitated as quickly as possible, before their potential for returning to society is diminished by their imprisonment. Third, that these first two goals should be accomplished at a minimum of long-term expense to the tax-payers.

It is for these reasons that I have come today to speak against more bricks and mortar for long-term facilities at Deer Lodge, and to speak for community pre-release and programs, to speak for another facility similar to the Swan River work camp, and to speak for more prison work programs.

brief

It was my experience while working at Riker's Island prison, that inmates were often intimidated during their first weeks in prison. During these early weeks, they were often willing to change their value systems in order to return to society.

But after a few weeks or months, inmates would begin to adapt to the system, would begin to learn from the other. In the absense of prison work programs, the cells of the prison became a classroom for crime, and a jungle of the very values that we hoped to surpress.

I would suggest to you that criminals should only be imprisoned for a short time, unless they are <sup>currently</sup> dangerous to society. Otherwise they should quickly be sent to halfway houses and pre-release programs where they can begin to work and to make restitution to their victims.

I have seen young men in prison who were ready to return to the outside world, who were regressing in the prison atmosphere; but we did not have halfway houses and pre-release programs that would help them to return to society.

John Loder

Allow me to share one short, illustrative story. George ~~xxx~~ (not his real name) was an inmate who had risen to being a trustee. He drove the bus that met us when the ferry boat landed at the Island Prison. He would drive us to the main cell block.

This man in his fifties was totally harmless and totally trusted. He could move anywhere on the island outside of the maximum security cells. He had served his time. With only a few days left before his release, George returned to one of the officers one day, dripping wet. He was carrying his neatly folded clothes. He confessed to having tried to swim from the island...he returned when he couldn't make it.

Now George was not crazy. He was afraid. He had been there so long that he was afraid of returning to the real world. His aborted escape was carefully planned. And he succeeded. He was sentenced to further time at the prison...and in a few months he was back to driving the bus.

That illustrates how destructive it is to keep prisoners longer than necessary. That illustrates how ~~important it is to have pre-release programs~~ frightening it can be for prison inmates to return to society that has changed in the time they have been in prison; that illustrates how important it is to have pre-release programs and adequate parole officers to work with the men returning to society.

You have an exciting opportunity to reverse the negative trends in our prison system. Your communities are ready now for a pre-release system. Glendive, Billings, Helena, and Great Falls have citizens prepared to work with such programs.

I urge you to fund such programs, to increase the number of parole officers at your next regular session, if you cannot do it at this one. And I encourage you to increase the number of work opportunities that are available at our Deer Lodge crime school.

And then I encourage you to return to your communities to tell your constituents

1. we have continued to protect you from dangerous offenders 2. we have done the right thing, and 3. we have saved you the tax payers, a lot of money.  
*by returning prisoners as quickly as possible to being productive members of society.*  
*4 we have protected you from repeated crime.*

Thank you.

NAME :

DATE: 6/21/82

ADDRESS :

PHONE :

REPRESENTING WHOM?

APPEARING ON WHICH PROPOSAL:

DO YOU:

SUPPORT?

AMEND?

OPPOSE?

COMMENTS:

PLEASE LEAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS WITH THE COMMITTEE SECRETARY.

HB 10  
Pro John Frankino

TO: Montana Legislature  
Second Special Session

My name is John Frankino, Director of the Montana Catholic Conference.

I am not in a position to comment on the maximum security portion of the present proposals. However, before registering our support for two elements under consideration, I have been asked to say something about the data analysis related to it.

During the past six years, the Montana Catholic Conference has been involved in four major projects related to corrections that required research and data analysis relative to Montana crime rates, recidivism, sentencing, parole, inmate profiles, etc. There is a certain amount of risk whenever data projections are made. I believe that data in this area in the past was suspect. However, improvements of recent years have increased the reliability of the information. Predictive analysis is vital to all phases of our complex society and this does not exclude the criminal justice system. No one can guarantee you that the figures you will be dealing with, now or at a future date, are perfectly exact beyond a question of a doubt. However, I can tell you that the conclusions we reached in our projects have proved correct and the data analysis proved reliable within the parameters suggested by the board of crime control. I mention this only because the decisions you make must rely on this type of data--with regard to the potential needs of a maximum facility and the potential use of expanded community corrections. Whatever decisions you make now or at some future date using other studies and data you can only be reasonably certain about these decisions. There is not now, nor will there ever be a perfect crystal ball. The citizens of Montana can only ask that you base your decisions on humane treatment and social

With this in mind, I would like to use this opportunity to underline our support in a special way for two elements presently under consideration:

- (1) expansion of community based corrections, and
- (2) expansion of the diagnostic, counseling and rehabilitative services through the entire corrections system.

Community based treatment recognizes that there will exist a need for a secure, humane maximum facility for a certain number of dangerous and violent offenders. However, the success of community corrections throughout the country and the excellent track record of Montana's community corrections programs gives strong support to both the human services and economic benefits of this part of the system. We encourage you to use this opportunity to expand the community-based corrections systems in Montana.

Also, as stated in the Correctional Alternatives Plan, interpretation of results of the profile of inmate populations show that there are certain categories of demonstrated need for correctional programs. This means there is a need to expand the diagnostic, counseling and rehabilitative services throughout the entire system. Such action will also improve needed human services and put the rehabilitative dollar where it will do the most good. The evidence clearly shows a reason to initiate other kinds of programs in addition to those concerned with education and employment. We encourage you to also expand this portion of the corrections program.

Thank you.



206 Glacier Apartments  
505 5rd Ave. No.  
Great Falls, Mt. 59401  
June 18, 1982

Denise Thompson  
c/o Robert L. Marks, Speaker  
Legislative Finance Committee  
Rules Committee  
Montana State House of Representatives  
Helena, Mt. 59601

Dear Denise:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation I am sending you a copy of the letter of support for a pre-release prisoner residence from the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

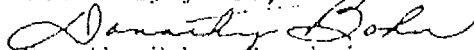
I am also sending you copies of the Great Falls Tribune report of the public meeting that was held here on June 18, together with a statement of intent to establish such a residence, accompanied by a list of names of people who pledged their support.

At the June 18 meeting a Board of Directors was selected, a copy of which I am enclosing.

I hope to be able to testify, although I do have a conflict on the evening of June 21. If I am unable to come I will try to see that a member or members of our Board of Directors attend.

Please accept this letter, with enclosures, as written testimony.

Sincerely yours,

  
Dorothy Bohn, Co-chairman

ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF GREAT FALLS

Great Falls, Mt. 59401  
May 21, 1982

STATEMENT OF ALTERNATIVE

On the following pages we show a list of people who have pledged their active support for a pre-release residence to be established in Great Falls for men prisoners. We would cooperate with the Board of Directors of the Community Half-Way Group Home in Billings, Montana, which would help set the policy for the program in Great Falls:

ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF GREAT FALLS

Margaret Giffen, co-chairman

*Margaret Giffen*

Dorothy Bohn, co-chairman

*Dorothy Bohn*

The following persons have agreed to study their district.

Franklin Staysert - Board of County Commissioners, Cascade County  
 Jack Whittaker - " " " " " "  
 Richard Casveda - " " " " " "  
 Shirley Kuntz - Mayor of the City of Great Falls  
 Glenn Osborne - Sheriff of Cascade County  
 Jack Anderson - Chief of Police of the City of Great Falls  
 YWCA, - Dorothy Ege, Director  
 William D. James - Vice-president and editor, Great Falls Tribune  
 W. H. Bertens - Former Senator - 1917 4th Ave. No.  
 Harvy Baumgart - Former District Parole and Probation Officer - 401 Edvardson Dr. N.  
 Bob Rechlin - Sheriff Officer for Jail Planning - 313 2nd Ave. No.  
 Dick Manning - State Representative from Great Falls - 408 7th Ave. No.  
 Bill Thomas, State Senator - 3440 12th Ave. So.  
 Robert Worthington - Great Falls City Commissioner  
 Richard Gercken - Librarian of the Great Falls Library  
 Andrew Hemstad - State Representative - 2401 4th Ave. No.  
 John Matsko - State Representative from Great Falls  
 John Phillips - " " " " "  
 Harry Berg - State Senator from Great Falls  
 Pat Ryan - " " " " "  
 Fred J. Bourdeau - County Attorney, Cascade County  
 Lottie Bourdeau - Teacher - Great Falls Public Schools  
 Harold McLaughlin - Administrator of SCS - Cascade Co.  
 Sister Lois Murray - Public Information Director - College of Great Falls  
 Dr. Jack Stimpfling - Director of the McLaughlin Research Institute  
 Father Anthony Gregori - Chairman of the Criminology Dept., College of Great Falls  
 Dr. Jess Farris - Psychologist - 3800 8th Ave. No.  
 Carol Farris - Consultant  
 Mary Wright - Sec'y., Cascade Co. Board of Commissioners  
 Carl Donovan - Opportunities, Inc.  
 Sandra Watts - Attorney-at-Law - Strain Bldg.  
 Leonn Ferron - Buyer, The Bon (Retired) - 505 3rd Ave. No.  
 Olive Prior - Home Maker - 505 3rd Ave. No.  
 Madalyn Quinlan - Counselor - 631 6th Ave. No.  
 Arlyne Reichert - Laboratory Director - McLaughlin Research Institute  
 Geraldine W. Travis - State Revenue Dept. - 3413 6th Ave. So.  
 Wm. Travis - U. S. Air Force (Retired)  
 Ann Cohn - Saleswoman (Retired) - 505 3rd Ave. No.  
 Mrs. Reid Carlson - Secretary - " "  
 Emilie Loring - Attorney - 121 4th St. No.  
 James A. Lewis - Montana Legal Services - 510 1st Ave. No.  
 Rev. Jack H. Sovern - Hospital Chaplain - 1200 Juniper Ave.  
 Mary Rigney - Legal Sec'y. (Retired) - 505 3rd Ave. No.  
 Label Rigney - Housewife (Retired) " "  
 Dick Thorenghman - Supt. of Casco Bldg.  
 Mary Hempleman - Sec'y. Cascade Co. Democratic Central Committee - 1100 Ave. B N.W.  
 Gertrude Lindgren - Social Worker - 400 1st Ave. N. W.  
 Earl Collins, Bldg. Supt., Glacier Apts.  
 Branson Stevenson - Artist - 715 4th Ave. No.  
 Violet Stevenson - Home Maker - 715 1st Ave. No.  
 Norma Warren - Home Maker - 1725 1st Ave. So.  
 Lavaunne Vanant - Owner and Mgr. Lavaunne Hotel 400 2nd Ave. No.  
 Thompson, William - Teacher - 1715 4th Ave. No.

Page 2

Joan Bennett - Chairman Cascade County Democrat 118 Central Avenue - 418 17 Ave. So.  
 Dick Bennett - Bennett Pontiac Motors - 418 17 Ave. So.  
 Carl Gladue - Director of Opportunities, Inc.  
 Marjorie Gladue - Home Maker - west of Great Falls  
 Ed Joramo - North Side body Works - 1701 9th Ave. So.  
 Rev. Robt. L. Vanveraarde - Christ Methodist Church - 400 1st Ave.  
 Jody Manning - President of Cascade County Democratic Women's Club - 410 7th Ave. No.  
 Frank LaPierre - 1513 16th St. So. - Candidate for County Commissioner  
 Mike Gersack - Probation Officer, Great Falls.  
 Sister Susan Jones - College of Great Falls, Montana  
 Sister Mary Kaye Nealen - College of Great Falls, Montana  
 Father Jos. Tobin - St. Gerard's - 2311 5th Ave. So.  
 Rev. Conrad Himmel - 4100 5th Ave. So.  
 Rev. Phil Shull - United Methodist Church  
 Tony Fillicetti - Western Drug - 2615 Central Avenue  
 Rev. Dave McMannus - St. Francis Episcopal Church  
 Helen O'Connell - State Representative from Great Falls - 703 4th Ave. S. W.  
 Jerry McGivern - County of Cascade - 1601 9th St. N. W.  
 Maureen Bureson - Planner at Opportunities, Inc. - 706 8th Ave. So.  
 Wm. H. Artz - CPA - 600 Central Plaza  
 B. F. Chris Christians - Human Rights Commission - Great Falls, Montana  
 Clare Del Guerra - Cascade County Extension Office  
 Peggy Mattson - House Parent - 3638 3rd Ave. So.  
 Shirlee Graybill - Democratic Precinct Committeewoman - 609 3rd Ave. No.  
 Mary K. Artz - Home Maker - 2812 2nd Ave. So.  
 P. J. Gilfeather - Attorney-at-Law - 2816 4th Ave. So.  
 Warren and Ellen Sawyer - Retired - 901 Carlos  
 Grace Lacey - 3036 7th Ave. So.  
 Marcia Staigmiller - Ranch wife - South of Great Falls  
 Harriet Missey - Girl Scout executive - 1601 9th St. N. W.  
 Tempe Henderson - Secretary, Great Falls Public Schools - 3100 5th Ave. No.  
 John St. Germaine - City Commissioner of Great Falls  
 Lorin Frazier - Director - Vocational Education Center of Great Falls  
 Toni Bergene - State Representative from Great Falls  
 Walter Brown - Lt. Governor of Optimist Clubs  
 Les Nilson - State representative from Great Falls  
 Dr. John A. Layne - Physician(Retired) 817 5th Ave. No.

# Three GF sites vie for halfway house

The Salvation Army facility at 317 2d Ave. S, the vacant Sparling Hotel, north of the downtown Post Office building, and the seventh floor of the CasCo building, were named as apparent top contenders as locations for a new prison inmate pre-release center in Great Falls.

A meeting of the Alternative Facilities Committee Tuesday evening at the CasCo building saw 21 persons volunteering for the committee board to continue searching for an adequate location. The committee will consult with Dave Armstrong, director of Billing's Alpha House in setting up procedures to establish a privately-run halfway house in the Electric City.

Alpha House is now Montana's only halfway house designed to help parolees ease their way back into society. Armstrong explained Alpha House serves as a redirection rather than a rehabilitation facility. Residents at the facility are given aid in finding a job and establishing themselves in the community, rather than being released from the state prison in Deer Lodge with \$85 in their pocket and no place to go, Armstrong said.

He said that residents at the Billings facility average nearly \$500 in savings prior to returning to the community.

Salvation Army's Captain Wayne Froderberg explained he could not speak for the SA board, and his organization is only in the exploration stages of considering their facility as a halfway house.

But, Froderberg said, he believes the concept "would be compatible" with present programs at the location. He pledged Salvation Army support to work with the Alternative Facilities Committee to see what could be worked out.

There is a need to first determine if the halfway house concept would be compatible with the Cascade County Mental Health program now being conducted at the SA facility, he said.

The Salvation Army building is apparently more compatible to a halfway house program than other facilities considered, in that it is already zoned for such activity, and meets fire, safety and building codes.

Armstrong said the seventh floor of the CasCo building appears to

present some security problems that could lead to public relations problems. In addition, the building is not located near the downtown area, one of the primary factors to be considered in site selection, he said.

In the case of the Sparling Hotel, renovations to meet codes and weatherization factors must be taken into consideration, according to AFC co-chairwoman Dorothy Bohn. She emphasized that none of the buildings were either being approved of or disapproved Tuesday, but merely being brought up for committee consideration.

The next meeting of the new AFC board will be July 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the CasCo building. Members will meet with Armstrong and give further consideration to facility locations.

Persons on the board are Jack Severns, Harvey Baumgard, Harriet Missey, Rev. Anthony Gregori, Dorothy Bohn, Carl Donovan, Bill Travis, Chuck ~~Donovan~~, Bill Artz, Carl Gladue, Margaret Gilfeather, Dorothy Ege, John Palagi, Pat Goodover, Robert Bradford, Harry Berg, Jerry McGivern, Richard Ferderer, Jim Lewis, Mary Wright and Toni Bergene.

Billings Gazette 6/15/83

# Proposed halfway house's site to be topic of meeting tonight

By MIKE DENNISON  
Tribune Staff Writer

Proponents of a halfway house in Great Falls tonight will choose where they want to locate the new prison inmate pre-release center.

Among the sites considered is the seventh floor of the CasCo Building, a group spokeswoman said last week.

Dorothy Bohn, co-chairwoman of the Alternative Facilities Committee, said two older downtown buildings also are being considered, but declined to reveal which ones.

TONIGHT'S PUBLIC meeting will be in the second-floor conference room at the CasCo Building at 7:30.

The committee, a local group originally formed to try to draw a women's prison to Great Falls, has been trying to gain support and finances to start a privately run halfway house.

Currently, Montana only has one such halfway house — the Alpha House in Billings.

Alpha House Director Dave Armstrong has been assisting the local group in its search for a building, and will speak at tonight's meeting about how Alpha House operates.

Also at tonight's meeting, the committee will:

- Choose a board of directors to oversee halfway house policy.
- Decide whether to "join forces"

with the Alpha House board of directors to run the Great Falls facility.

- Discuss possible grants to help fund remodeling of the building.

"That's what's holding us back — money," Bohn said.

PART OF THAT problem may be solved by the special session of the Legislature, scheduled to meet next week on prison problems.

In his budget proposal submitted to the Legislature, Gov. Ted Schwinden has asked for \$57,000 over the next year to finance two new halfway houses in the state. Of that money, \$35,000 would be allocated to each facility for start-up costs. Those two houses probably would be in Great Falls and Helena.

Armstrong said he thinks the halfway house funds have a good chance of passage, because it is a cheaper alternative to building or remodeling a major prison facility.

A halfway house is designed to help parolees ease their way back into society. It also acts as a screening facility, weeding out inmates who might not be ready for life on the outside world.

In addition to its staff, the new halfway house would work with local counseling agencies and businessmen.

Margaret Gilfeather, the AFC's other co-chairwoman, said business-

men who employ the parolees get breaks on their income tax.

And, the halfway house would have another bonus for Great Falls, Gilfeather said — 15 new jobs.

THE IDEAL BUILDING for a halfway house would be an older downtown hotel, Gilfeather said, as the house must have rooms for inmates, a kitchen and counseling rooms.

The halfway house would have 24-hour surveillance, and whenever inmates return from outside, they would be given breath tests for alcohol use and an occasional urine test to detect any drug use.

Twenty to 25 inmates are housed at the Alpha House. Those who have committed violent crimes are not allowed at the house.

If the money materializes to fund Great Falls' halfway house, proponents want to partially combine its administration with that of the Alpha House. Alpha House has two years of experience behind it, Gilfeather said, and the committee would like to have Armstrong act as part-time administrator for the Great Falls facility to help it get started.

Armstrong said such a move would cut costs, as the two programs could manage their finances together, and they wouldn't be competing against one another for prisoners.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES COMMITTEE OF GREAT FALLS

Harvey Baumgart - Retired Area Parole and Probation Officer

Jack Severas - Hospital Chaplain

Harriet Missey - Director, Girl Scouts

Rev. Anthony Gregori - Chairman of Criminology Dept. - College of Great Falls

Dorothy Bohn - Retired - Foreign Language Dept., University of Montana

Carl Donovan - Employee of Columbus Hosp. - Opportunities-Incorporated

Bill Travis - Retired - U. S. Air Force

Chuck Merryfield - Retired - U. S. Air Force

Bill Artz - C. P. A.

Carl Gladue - Administrator of Opportunities, Inc.

Margaret Gilfeather - Retired Teacher and Social Worker

Dorothy Ege - Director of YWCA

John Palagi - Owner of Green Disposal Service

Pat Goodever - Realtor and State Senator

Robert Bradford - Employee of Opportunities-Inc.

Harry Berg - Teacher and State Senator

Richard Ferderer - Director of Teamsters' Union

Jim Lewis - Attorney - Montana Legal Services

Mary Wright - Secretary - Commissioners of Cascade County

Tony Bergene - State Representative and Housewife

Jerry McGivern - Employee of Circle K

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE  
MONTANA STATE SENATE

SPECIAL SESSION II

June 23, 1982

The Senate State Administration Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Story at 3:30 p.m. on the above date in Room 442 for executive action on House Bill 10.

ROLL CALL: All members of the committee were present.

Discussion between the members involved the cost, additional staffing, the fiscal note, number of prerelease centers, denial to the prisoners who most need this type of opportunity, recidivism rate, and long-term solutions to the prison.

ACTION ON HOUSE BILL NO. 10: Senator Towe moved that this bill BE CONCURRED IN. It passed by a unanimous oral vote.

Senator Towe passed out a sheet with an alternative long-term plan and discussed this with the committee. See enclosed.

ADJOURNMENT: 3:45 p.m.



PETE STORY, Chairman



ROLL CALL

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

47th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1981

Date 6-23

| NAME                         | PRESENT | ABSENT | EXCUSED |
|------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Senator Pete Story, Chairman | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Allen Kolstad, V. C. | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator William Hafferman    | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator H. W. Hammond        | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Jan Johnson          | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Patrick Ryan         | ✓       |        |         |
| Senator Thomas Towe          | ✓       |        |         |
|                              |         |        |         |
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|                              |         |        |         |
|                              |         |        |         |

Each day attach to minutes.

June 23 19 82

MR. PRESIDENT

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration HOUSE BILL Bill No. 10

Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE Bill No. 10

BE CONCURRED IN

~~DO PASS~~

House Bill 10 (attached)

BOB PYFER, Legislative Council, read the following amendment to  
HB 10 to committee members:

1. Page 2, line 3.  
Following: "maintain"  
Insert: "or contract with non-profit  
organizations to establish and maintain"

REPRESENTATIVE GOULD moved the amendment to HB 10 DO PASS.  
Representative Spilker seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and PASSED unanimously.

REPRESENTATIVE O'CONNELL moved to further amend HB 10. Representa-  
tive Pistoria seconded the motion.

The amendments are as follows:

1. Page 2, line 4.  
Following: "centers"  
Strike: "for purposes of preparing inmates"  
Insert: ". Each inmate"
2. Page 2, line 5.  
Following: "who"  
Strike: "are approaching"  
Insert: "is within 6 months of"
3. Page 2, line 6.  
Following: "discharge"  
Insert: "shall be transferred to a prerelease  
center for purposes of preparing him"

REPRESENTATIVE GOULD moved the amendments DO NOT PASS. Representa-  
tive Spilker seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and PASSED with all committee members present  
voting "aye" except Representatives O'Connell and Pistoria who  
voted "no".

REPRESENTATIVE GOULD moved HB 10 DO PASS AS AMENDED. Representa-  
tive Mueller seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and PASSED with all committee members present  
voting "aye" except Representatives O'Connell and Pistoria who  
voted "no".

Special Session

House JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

INTRODUCED BY

*Julian Salgado*  
*Synch*  
*Stevens*  
*Stumatz*

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE EMPLOYMENT CLASSIFICATIONS, POSITIONS, AND GRADES OF CORRECTIONS PERSONNEL AT THE MONTANA STATE PRISON TO ESTABLISH EQUITY AMONG POSITIONS, TO ENHANCE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, AND TO FURTHER THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF SUPERIOR PERSONNEL.

WHEREAS, the circumstances at the Montana State Prison must be considered overall in light of the prison's goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, one of the components of the prison which could be upgraded in a relatively inexpensive manner and which would produce results out of proportion to its cost is insuring the commitment of corrections personnel to the goals and objectives of the prison; and

WHEREAS, motivated correctional personnel are a vital component in prison improvement because such people are in day-to-day contact with prisoners, the prison administration, and the physical plant; and

WHEREAS, the recruitment and retention of superior

Individuals as correctional personnel cannot help but be cost effective in long-term prison operations and helpful in inmate reformation; and

WHEREAS, inadequate or inequitable situations of pay grades for various corrections positions increase corrections personnel dissatisfaction with employment conditions, thus unduly reducing their commitment to proper job performance; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Administration establishes pay grades for various positions in state government employment based in part on studies and recommendations of the employing department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

(1) That the Department of Institutions, with the assistance of the Department of Administration, is urged to carefully review the positions, classifications, and grades of correctional personnel at the Montana State Prison to the end that the pay grades of such positions are equitably established to:

(a) encourage the recruitment, motivation, and retention of personnel; and

(b) establish an orderly career path for corrections personnel by providing for rational grade increases

- 1 commensurate with ability and experience.
- 2 (2) That copies of this resolution be sent to the
- 3 Director, Department of Institutions, and to the Director,
- 4 Department of Administration.

-End-

1 ~~HB~~ BILL NO. 10 SS#2  
 2 INTRODUCED BY London Bryant

3  
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SPECIFICALLY  
 5 AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS TO ESTABLISH AND  
 6 MAINTAIN COMMUNITY BASED PRERELEASE CENTERS; AMENDING  
 7 SECTION 53-1-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE  
 8 DATE."

9  
 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11 Section 1. Section 53-1-203, MCA, is amended to read:

12 "53-1-203. Powers and duties of department. The  
 13 department shall:

14 (1) adopt rules for the admission, custody, transfer,  
 15 and release of residents of institutions except as otherwise  
 16 provided by law; however, no such rules may amend or alter  
 17 the statutory powers and duties of the state board of  
 18 pardons;

19 (2) subject to the functions of the department of  
 20 administration, lease or purchase lands for use by  
 21 institutions and classify those lands to determine which are  
 22 of such character as to be most profitably used for  
 23 agricultural purposes, taking into consideration the needs  
 24 of all institutions for the food products that can be grown  
 25 or produced on the lands and the relative value of

1 agricultural programs in the treatment or rehabilitation of  
 2 the persons confined in the institutions;

3 ~~(3) establish and maintain community based prerelease~~  
 4 ~~centers for purposes of preparing inmates of the Montana~~  
 5 ~~state prison who are approaching parole eligibility or~~  
 6 ~~discharge for release into the community; the centers shall~~  
 7 ~~provide a less restrictive environment than the prison while~~  
 8 ~~maintaining adequate security; the centers shall be operated~~  
 9 ~~in coordination with other department correctional programs,~~  
 10 ~~including the supervised release program provided for in~~  
 11 ~~title 46, chapter 23, part 4.~~

12 ~~(3)(4)~~ utilize the staff and services of other state  
 13 agencies and units of the Montana university system, within  
 14 their respective statutory functions, to carry out its  
 15 functions under this title;

16 ~~(4)(5)~~ propose programs to the legislature to meet the  
 17 projected long-range needs of institutions, including  
 18 programs and facilities for the diagnosis, treatment, care,  
 19 and aftercare of persons placed in institutions; and

20 ~~(5)(6)~~ encourage the establishment of programs at the  
 21 local level for the prevention and rehabilitation of  
 22 physical and mental disability."

23 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. This act is  
 24 effective on passage and approval.

-End-

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 10

1. Page 2, line 3.

Following: "maintain"

Insert: "or contract with non-profit  
organizations to establish and maintain"

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HB 10

*Do Not  
List*

1. Page 2, line 4.  
Following: "centers"  
Strike: "for purposes of preparing inmates"  
Insert: ". Each inmate"
2. Page 2, line 5.  
Following: "who"  
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Insert: "is within 6 months of"
3. Page 2, line 6.  
Following: "discharge"  
Insert: "shall be transferred to a prerelease center for  
purposes of preparing him"



# STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

June 21, ..... 19 82

MR. SPEAKER:

We, your committee on STATE ADMINISTRATION

having had under consideration ..... HOUSE Bill No. 10

"A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY BASED PRERELEASE CENTERS; AMENDING SECTION 53-1-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

Respectfully report as follows: That ..... HOUSE Bill No. 10

be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 3.  
Following: "maintain"  
Insert: "or contract with non-profit organizations to establish and maintain"

DO PASS AS AMENDED

1 ~~House~~ JOINT RESOLUTION NO. ~~113~~ <sup>2</sup>  
2 INTRODUCED BY *[Signature]*  
3  
4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA URGING THE  
6 DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS TO LOCATE A PRERELEASE CENTER IN  
7 GREAT FALLS, MONTANA.

8  
9 WHEREAS, the Legislature has provided the Department of  
10 Institutions with funding for the establishment of  
11 community-based prerelease centers; and

12 WHEREAS, the city of Great Falls has held public  
13 hearings on the issue of locating a prerelease center in  
14 Great Falls, and no opposition was voiced; and

15 WHEREAS, there are several locations in Great Falls  
16 under consideration that would be suitable for the  
17 establishment of a prerelease center; and

18 WHEREAS, the city of Great Falls has established a  
19 21-member board to prepare for the location of a prerelease  
20 center in Great falls and to prepare a proposal for the  
21 location of a prerelease center for submission to the  
22 Department of Institutions; and

23 WHEREAS, the city of Great Falls has the educational,  
24 training, vocational, and employment opportunities suggested  
25 by the American Correctional Association as criteria for the

1 Location of prerelease centers.

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

4 That the Department of Institutions is strongly urged  
5 to locate one of the prerelease centers authorized by the  
6 Legislature in Great Falls, Montana.

-End-

INTRODUCED BILL